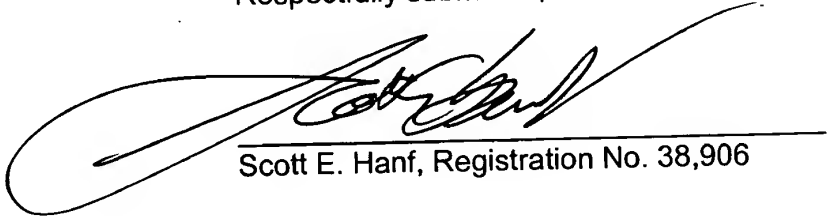


REMARKS

Entry of the above amendment is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current Amendment. The attached document is entitled "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,



Scott E. Hanf, Registration No. 38,906

(CUSTOMER NUMBER 25,255)

Clariant Corporation
Industrial Property Department
4331 Chesapeake Drive
Charlotte, North Carolina 28216
Telephone: ~~704/395-6712~~
Facsimile: 704/395-6727

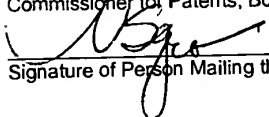
704-331-7140

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

Express Mail Label Number: **ET825363396US**

Date of Mailing: March 15, 2002

I hereby certify that on the date indicated above, this new U.S. patent application and the papers indicated as enclosed therein, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box PCT DO/EO/US, Washington, D.C. 20231, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.10.



Signature of Person Mailing the Application

Vicki L. Sgro
Typed Name of Person Mailing the Application

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1-10, 14, 16, and 19 as follows:

1.(Amended)[Use of

(P_A) water-dispersible or colloidally soluble polyamides which contain hydrophilic polyalkylene glycol ether chains in the skeletal structure

as wet-acting lubricants in] A method for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope form or tubular form with a textile treatment agent (T) by an exhaust process from aqueous liquor under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds and/or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate comprising the steps of:

providing textile piece goods; and

applying (P_A) water-dispersible or colloidally soluble polyamides which contain hydrophilic polyalkylene glycol ether chains in the skeletal structure as wet-acting lubricants.

2. (Amended) [Use] A method for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope form or tubular form with a textile treatment agent (T) by an exhaust process from aqueous liquor under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds and/or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate according to Claim 1, characterised in that (P_A) is a polyamide made from difunctional compounds (D), and optionally monofunctional compounds (E) which are suitable for the end capping of the polyamides, and/or higher oligo-functional compounds (H) which are suitable for the branching of the polyamides.

- 3.(Amended) [Use] A method for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope form or tubular form with a textile treatment agent (T) by an exhaust process from aqueous liquor under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds and/or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate according to Claim 2, characterised in that, as difunctional compounds (D),

- (A₁) aliphatic, araliphatic or aromatic diamines which otherwise contain no hydrophilic components or substituents,
(A₂) aliphatic diamines which contain at least one hydrophilic polyethylene glycol chain,
and (B₁) alkanedicarboxylic acids having 2 to 36 carbon atoms, aromatic dicarboxylic acids having one to three benzene rings, two of which may optionally be fused, or araliphatic dicarboxylic acids which contain 9 to 18 carbon atoms and contain one benzene ring or two optionally fused benzene rings, where aromatic rings may be bonded to further aliphatic, aromatic or araliphatic parts of the molecule, optionally via oxygen,

are employed for the production of (P_A).

4. (Amended) [Use] A method for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope form or tubular form with a textile treatment agent (T) by an exhaust process from aqueous liquor under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds and/or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate according to Claim 3, characterised in that (P_A) is a polyamide made from

- (A₁) an aliphatic diamine which otherwise contains no hydrophilic components or substituents,
(A₂) an aminoalkylation product of polyethylene glycols having an average molecular weight \overline{M}_w in the range from 200 to 4000 or of copolyalkylene glycols which consists predominantly of ethyleneoxy units and the remainder of butyleneoxy and/or propyleneoxy units, having an average molecular weight \overline{M}_w in the range from 300 to 5000,
and (B₁) an alkanedicarboxylic acid having 2 to 36 carbon atoms.

5. (Amended) [Use] A method for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope form or tubular form with a textile treatment agent (T) by an exhaust process from aqueous liquor under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds and/or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate according to Claim 1, characterised in that (P_A) is employed in the form of an aqueous, concentrated preparation (W).

6. (Amended) [Use] A method for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope form or tubular form with a textile treatment agent (T) by an exhaust process from aqueous liquor under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds and/or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate according to Claim 5, characterised in that (W) is an aqueous preparation or colloidal solution which is characterised by a content of (P_A) and

(F) a flow-control agent
and/or (G) a thickening agent.

7. (Amended) [Use] A method for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope form or tubular form with a textile treatment agent (T) by an exhaust process from aqueous liquor under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds and/or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate according to Claim 6, characterised in that (W), in addition to (P_A), (F) and/or (G), contains at least one of the following components

(X) a non-ionogenic emulsifier or a mixture of non-ionogenic emulsifiers or a mixture of non-ionogenic emulsifiers and anionic or amphoteric emulsifiers or a mixture of non-ionogenic emulsifiers, anionic emulsifiers and amphoteric emulsifiers,
(Y) at least one agent for setting the pH
and (Z) at least one formulation additive.

8. (Amended) [Use] A method for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope form or tubular form with a textile treatment agent (T) by an exhaust process from aqueous liquor under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds and/or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate according to Claim 1, characterised in that (T) is at least one dye or at least one optical brightener.
9. (Amended) [Use] A method for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope form or tubular form with a textile treatment agent (T) by an exhaust process from aqueous liquor under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds and/or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate according to Claim 1, in the dyeing or optical brightening of textile material made from synthetic polyamide fibres, optionally blended with other fibres, in jet dyeing machines.

10. (Amended) [Use] A method for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope form or tubular form with a textile treatment agent (T) by an exhaust process from aqueous liquor under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds and/or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate according to Claim 1, in the dyeing or optical brightening of textile material made from synthetic polyamide microfibres, optionally blended with other fibres of comparable fineness
14. (Amended) Process for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope or tubular form with a textile treatment agent (T) by exhaust methods from aqueous liquor, under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate, characterised in that the process is carried out in the presence of a wet-acting lubricant (P_A) as defined in [any one of] Claim[s] 1 [to 4 optionally in the form of a composition as defined in any one of Claims 5 to 7 or 13].
16. (Amended) Aqueous polyamide preparation (W'), essentially consisting of (P_A), (F), (G) and water and optionally at least one of the additives (X), (Y) and (Z), in which (P_A) is as defined in Claim 1 (F) and (G) are as defined in Claim 6, and (X), (Y) and (Z) are as defined in [one of] Claim[s] 1 [to 4,] (F) and (G) are as defined in Claim 6, and (X), (Y) and (Z) are as defined in Claim 7.
19. (Amended) Process for the production of the aqueous preparations or wet-acting lubricants (W) according to [one of] Claim[s] 11 [to 13 or 16], characterised in that (P_A), optionally as a mixture with (F) and/or (X), is mixed with water and optionally with (Z) and optionally with an aqueous solution or dispersion of (G) and optionally with aqueous (X) and/or (Y) and/or (Z).

Please add new Claims 21 through 26 as follows:

21. Process for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope or tubular form with a textile treatment agent (T) by exhaust methods from aqueous liquor, under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate, characterised in that the process is carried out in the presence of a wet-acting lubricant (P_A) as defined in Claim 4.

23. Process for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope or tubular form with a textile treatment agent (T) by exhaust methods from aqueous liquor, under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate, characterised in that the process is carried out in the presence of a wet-acting lubricant (P_A) water-dispersible or colloidally soluble polyamides which contain hydrophilic polyalkylene glycol ether chains in the skeletal structure as wet-acting lubricants in the form of a composition as defined in Claims 5.

23. Process for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope or tubular form with a textile treatment agent (T) by exhaust methods from aqueous liquor, under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate, characterised in that the process is carried out in the presence of a wet-acting lubricant (P_A) water-dispersible or colloidally soluble polyamides which contain hydrophilic polyalkylene glycol ether chains in the skeletal structure as wet-acting lubricants in the form of a composition as defined in Claims 7.

24. Process for the treatment of textile piece goods in rope or tubular form with a textile treatment agent (T) by exhaust methods from aqueous liquor, under conditions which would otherwise in the textile substrate favour the formation of transport folds or the occurrence of friction in or on the substrate, characterised in that the process is carried out in the presence of a wet-acting lubricant (P_A) water-dispersible or colloidally soluble polyamides which contain hydrophilic polyalkylene glycol ether chains in the skeletal structure as wet-acting lubricants in the form of a composition as defined in Claims 13.

25. Process for the production of the aqueous preparations or wet-acting lubricants (W) according to Claim 13, characterised in that (P_A), optionally as a mixture with (F) and/or (X), is mixed with water and optionally with (Z) and optionally with an aqueous solution or dispersion of (G) and optionally with aqueous (X) and/or (Y) and/or (Z).

26. Process for the production of the aqueous preparations or wet-acting lubricants (W) according to Claim 16, characterised in that (P_A), optionally as a mixture with (F) and/or (X), is mixed with water and optionally with (Z) and optionally with an aqueous solution or dispersion of (G) and optionally with aqueous (X) and/or (Y) and/or (Z).

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